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RESOURCES AGENCY ANNOUNCES ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2007/08

The final application submission date is Friday, November 30, 2007

SACRAMENTO – California Secretary for Resources, Mike Chrisman announced today that applications are being accepted for the 2007/08 grant cycle of the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program.

The program offers grants to local, state, and federal governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations for projects to mitigate environmental impacts caused by new or modified state transportation facilities. Grants generally will be limited to \$350,000 per project. Grants are given in three categories:

- **Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry** -- Projects designed to improve air quality through the planting of trees and other suitable plants.
- **Resource Lands** -- Projects for the acquisition, restoration, or enhancement of watersheds, wildlife habitat, wetlands, forests, or other significant natural areas.
- **Roadside Recreational** -- Projects for the acquisition and/or development of roadside recreational opportunities.

Applications for the 2007/08 grant cycle must be received by the Resources Agency no later than 4 p.m. Friday, November 30, 2007. The Resources Agency will submit a list of recommend projects to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for funding consideration and for public notice at their February 2008 meeting. It is anticipated that the CTC will adopt the list of projects to be funded in March 2008.

EEM program application packets, which include minimum requirements, project evaluation criteria, typical questions and answers, and a sample Caltrans project agreement, are available from the Resources Agency, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento, CA 95814 or by contacting the EEM Program Coordinator, Charles Chung at (916) 654-9923 or email charles.chung@resources.ca.gov.

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